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VARIETY

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FOREIGN PLAYS FOR B'WAY

THEATRICAL MANAGERS' GROUP INSURE MEMBERS FOR \$1,500,000

Partners of Selwyn & Co. Take \$500,000 Apiece—
Firm Beneficiary in All Policies—Policies Issued
by New York Life

Partners of Selwyn & Co. have insured their lives for \$500,000 each, totaling \$1,500,000. The first year's premium was \$50,000.

Edgar and Archie Selwyn and Crosby Gaige are the partners. The insurance was placed to protect the Selwyn business interests. The firm is the beneficiary in each policy, all issued by the New York Life, which might have reinsured some portion. The insurance passed through A. L. Libman, the broker. He has led the New York Life agents for the past four months. Associated with the Libman agency is Arnold Rothstein, who recently became active in reality.

The Selwyn insurance is said to be the largest of record for stage people. Adolph Zukor (Famous Players) within the past year had his life insured for \$7,000,000 through Henry Rosen, an officer of the Harriman National Bank and also a New York Life agent. In April Mr. Rosen was sixth on the list of agents. Mr. Libman headed.

BIGGEST BALLROOM

Trion in Chicago Will Accommodate 5,000 People

Chicago, June 28. The Trion will be the name of the world's largest ballroom, now being constructed at 62d street and Cottage Grove, according to George L. & C. W. Rapp, the architects.

The total cost of the structure will be more than \$1,000,000. The dance floor will accommodate 3,000 persons and there will be room for 2,000 more in the foyers, promenades and loges.

It is expected that the new ballroom will be opened late in September.

CUT-RATE SAILING

London, June 28. Steamship companies are offering a reduction of 25 per cent to passengers during July.

All transatlantic boats are solidly booked up for August and September.

CHINESE ACT OBJECTS TO IMAGE OF THEIR GOD

Choy Ling Foo Troupe Leaves
Bill at Proctor's, Albany—
Venita Gould Uses Image

Albany, N. Y., June 28. The Choy Ling Foo Chinese vaudeville troupe left the bill last Friday at Proctor's Grand here, following the refusal of Venita Gould to remove the image of the Chinese God from her act, used in her impersonation of Leonore Ulric in "The Sun-Daughter."

Both acts opened for the last half Thursday. In the killing scene from "The Sun-Daughter" and for the Ulric impersonation, Miss Gould prays to the Chinese God. The Chinese act followed Miss Gould on the program. They objected to the presence of an image of their God on the stage. Miss Gould declined to remove it.

The argument increased in intensity between the two acts. Manager Joe Wallace attempted to adjust it, but could obtain no concessions from Miss Gould.

Friday afternoon the controversy grew warmer. At that time the Chinese also complained because of a dark stage during Miss Gould's act that prevented properly setting their apparatus. No satisfaction was secured by the foreigners, and they left the bill after the matinee. Although holding a play-or-pay contract for the engagement, they neither asked for nor received salary.

The bill continued the remainder of the last half with four acts instead of five.

1ST CLOSING IN 14 YEARS

For the first time since it opened under Marcus Loew's direction 14 years ago, the Lyric, Hoboken, will close during the summer, shutting down July 2.

The house will reopen with Loew vaudeville in the fall.

IMPORTATIONS TO TAKE COMMAND IN FALL

Producers Declare Native
Dramatic Writings Fall
Down—British and Continental
Material Scheduled—Woods and Shuberts
Have at Least Four
Each—Dozen Others

LATE JUNE IS GOOD

Foreign plays will feature Broadway's next season, dated by custom from Labor Day on. From the tardy announcements of the new season's plans by several managers recently arrived back from Europe, it is estimated 20 or more plays originally produced in Europe have already been secured. If presented here at one time they would approximate more than one-third of the total list in New York.

Scarcity of American plays in proportion to the 50 theatres on Broadway was claimed in managerial quarters last when reason, when close to 200 plays or attractions produced, that being an increase of about 20 per cent. over the usual season. The increase was not actual, the total including a score of revivals hardly any of which was able to land. That managers did (Continued on page 21)

NEITHER OF HIRSHES EVER IN THEATRICALS

Husband Said to Have Kicked
Wife in Face After She
Shot Him

Neither Oscar A. (Wally) Hirsh nor his wife, Hazel, who is charged with having shot her husband through the mouth, has never been connected with the stage or screen in any manner.

A couple of New York dailies, after Mrs. Hirsh had been arrested early Sunday morning charged (Continued on page 7)

GERMAN PEOPLE DIVIDED BY "FRIDERICUS REX"

Film of Frederick the Great Causes Patriotism and
Hate, According to Where Shown—Picture in
Four Reels

FORMER PICTURE ACTRESS FOR SENATOR

Izzetta Jewel Announces Her
Candidacy in West Virginia
for U. S. Senate

Charleston, W. Va., June 28. Mrs. Junior Brown, formerly Izzetta Jewel, of pictures, has announced her candidacy for United States Senator from West Virginia on the Democratic ticket. She is the first woman of the state to strive for a high political position.

Mrs. Brown at the National Democratic convention at San Francisco seconded the nomination of John W. Davis for president. She was an energetic speaker during the campaign. Nedga E. Merbie, a local manufacturer of short reel pictures, educational and commercial, has come on for the Republican nomination from his district (Kanawha county) for the house of delegates.

GIVING UP RADIO

Twin City Newspapers Finding It
Too Costly

Minneapolis, June 28. Three newspapers in the Twin Cities have decided to stop radio broadcasting, finding it too costly. It also brought many protests from theatre managers.

One St. Paul paper and two in Minneapolis are the ones that will abandon radio.

C. P. LOWERS PARTY RATE

The rate on the Canadian Pacific Railroad for party movements calling for special train service has been reduced from \$3.75 to \$3 a mile.

The minimum was formerly \$100 for a movement. This has been reduced to \$75.

Montreal, June 28. A special cable from Berlin says: One of the most remarkable photoplays in the history of the German film, not so much on account of its composition, but on account of its effect upon the audience, is the film entitled "Fridericus Rex." While in one part of the city it has caused the audience to rise from their seats and sing the old imperial national anthem, in other parts of the town workmen have been storming the movies that dared to put the hated film on their screens.

"Fridericus Rex" is the first German picture that deals with a subject taken from German history, the life and work of Frederick the Great, who was selected, according to the producers of the film, because he is "the only romantic figure among the Hohenzollerns."

Two of the four parts, of which the picture consists, have thus far been completed. They are taken up completely by the conflict between the old King Frederick William I, whose life purpose was the creation of a strong army, at the head of which he wished to see his son, and the young Frederick, who preferred the flute to the saber, despised the severe drilling introduced by his father and who finally tried to escape to Holland.

This incident is the climax of the picture. The old king, bitterly disappointed and enraged, sentences his son and his son's best friend, Katte, to death. As a special punishment the young Frederick is forced to watch the execution of Katte from the window of his prison cell. This awful experience changes him completely and thenceforth he is the good soldier his father had endeavored to make him until then. The old king is so overcome with joy that his heart fails him and he dies.

The coronation scene of the Crown Prince ends the picture.

The final two parts will deal with the life at the court of San Souci in Potsdam and the Seven Years' War.